



RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
- EXPEDITED PROCEDURE -  
EXAMINING GROUP ART UNIT 3731

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

**PATENT**  
Docket No. 2089CON2 (203-2413CON2)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on March 7, 2005.

By: Edward Meagher Date: March 7, 2005

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT : THOMAS PATRICK RYAN  
TITLE : **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SEALING AND CUTTING TISSUE**  
SERIAL NO. : 09/992,301  
FILED : November 14, 2001  
EXAMINER : GLENN DAWSON  
GROUP ART UNIT : 3731

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR§1.116**

Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
MailStop: AF

Dear Sir:

In response to the office action dated January 5, 2005, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection with respect the pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

**A Listing of the claims** begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.